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NUMBER PLATE DETECTION USING MACHINE LEARNING

Mr. M. Purna Chandra Rao[1], Maramreddy. Avinash Reddy[2], Boggavarapu.Teja Nikhil Guptha[3],Kethanapalli. Shankar[4], Kanaparthi. Toff[5].

[1]Associate Professor Department of Information Technology, KKR & KSR Institute Of Technology And Sciences(A), Guntur, India.

[2,3,4,5]Undergraduate Students, Department of Information Technology, KKR & KSR Institute Of Technology And Sciences(A), Guntur, India.

1. Abstract:-

This project seeks to develop a real-time, Python-based, license plate recognition system leveraging deep learning's efficiency and robustness. Employing custom- trained convolutional neural networks alongside targeted object detection algorithms, the system aims to accurately locate and extract license plate information from images and video streams. Extensive data preprocessing and comprehensive model training optimize performance under varying lighting, angles, and minor occlusions. Integration into a user-friendly application further enhances accessibility and practical utility. This project's contribution lies in its applicability to real-world scenarios like traffic management, law enforcement, and vehicle tracking, demonstrating the power of advanced computer vision and machine learning for practical problem-solving in the automotive domain.

2. Key words:-

Artificial Intelligence, License Plate Detection Algorithms, Neural Network based Recognition, Geospatial Tracking, Real-time Analysis, Automation, Surveillance Technology, Advanced Tracking Methods, Data Integration, Collaborative Framework Proactive Security, Cutting-edge Technology, Manpower Reduction, Responsive Security Measures, Actionable Intelligence, Integration with Law Enforcement Protocols, Intelligent Monitoring, Threat Identification, Security Automation, Data-Driven Security

3. Introduction:-

In today's technology-driven era, the fusion of machine learning and computer vision unlocks boundless possibilities. One exciting application lies in automatic license plate recognition (ALPR), which automates the tedious and error-prone manual process of identifying vehicles. Our project leverages techniques like Python-based deep learning architectures and custom-trained convolutional neural networks (CNNs) to accurately detect and extract license plate information from images and video streams. Rigorous data preprocessing and model training ensure remarkable performance even under variable lighting, angles, and slight occlusions. This introduction sets the stage for a deeper exploration of the methodologies, technologies, and achievements of our project. By showcasing its abilities to address contemporary challenges and contribute to intelligent transportation systems, we demonstrate the immense potential of ALPR powered by machine.

4. Literature Review:-

A robust method for detecting and localizing Moroccan vehicle license plates (VLP) in images, particularly focusing on edge features and characteristics of license plate characters. The proposed algorithm involves four processes: edge detection using the Canny edge detector, selection of candidate characters based on closed contours, character extraction, and VLP localization. The paper concludes with a discussion on the characteristics of Moroccan license plates and presents a database evaluation, showcasing the algorithm's performance in different lighting conditions and with diverse vehicle types.[1]

A novel hybrid approach for license plate recognition is proposed, combining Neural Network and Image Correlation for character classification. The system utilizes image processing techniques, including transformation to grey level, histogram equalization, thresholding, and novel algorithms for character identification. The study aims to develop a reliable hybrid system that outperforms individual methods. The proposed approach addresses challenges such as varying environmental conditions and complex backgrounds, providing a robust solution for real-time license plate recognition.[2]

The discussion emphasizes the focus on License Plate Localization (LPL) in the proposed system, reflecting its application in Car License Plate Recognition (CLPR). Preliminary results indicate reliable plate verification and accurate segmentation under varying conditions. Overall, the proposed method combines morphological techniques and template matching for robust license plate detection and recognition, specifically tailored for Iranian plates.[3]

A rapid algorithm for automatic Egyptian license plate detection using a digital camera and a MATLAB-based system. Achieving a 96% detection rate for a limited dataset, the method employs histogram equalization, Sobel edge detection for border removal, and image segmentation focusing on the lower half. The system addresses challenges such as variable angles, fixed distance, and stationary vehicles. Cascaded classifiers and ANN methods enhance computational efficiency, offering promising results for law enforcement and security applications.[4]

The proposed system uses a camera, image acquisition card, computer, and auxiliary lighting apparatus. Image preprocessing involves steps such as Gray-scale transformation, contrast enhancement, edge detection using the Robert operator, and mathematical morphology operations. License plate location includes marking and screening primary areas, utilizing closing operations and aspect ratio filtering. [5]

It employs an intrinsic image decomposition algorithm to extract the reflection intrinsic image, which is independent of illumination, for effective license plate localization. Additionally, the paper proposes enhancing Chinese OCR recognition accuracy through the implementation of the R-SIFT feature matching method for vehicle authentication. This method involves extracting feature points from detected cars, matching them with a vehicle registration database, and issuing a warning if the matched points surpass a predefined threshold. [6]

It addresses challenges like varying distances, rotation angles, and poor illumination contrast. The method incorporates adaptive thresholding for image enhancement and an improved single-pass CCL and region property function for simultaneous license plate location and character extraction. The approach is efficient, accurate, and robust, handling rotation, illumination, and colour variations. Extensive testing demonstrates its reliability in detecting up to four license plates in an image, making it a robust solution for ALPR applications.[7]

This work addresses Automatic License Plate Recognition (ALPR), a technology essential for automated identification of license plate numbers. ALPR serves purposes such as toll collection, traffic law enforcement, and vehicle tracking. Existing ALPR systems encounter challenges like partial occlusions, non-uniform illumination, and diverse plate types across countries. This integrated method proves effective in reducing false positives and negatives, enhancing ALPR accuracy.[8]

Skewness issues in license plates, particularly in PTZ camera environments, impacting license plate recognition stages. The proposed method employs planar projective transformation for skew correction, handling rotation in depth. A reliable license plate detection method is introduced to enhance DE skewing. Contributions focus on efficient methods for license plate detection and skew correction to improve ALPR system performance. Experimental results demonstrate the viability and accuracy of the proposed approach.[9]

A solution for Bangla license plate detection and recognition, addressing the scarcity of research in this area. The approach utilizes the unique green colour of commercial license plates in Bangladesh. The method involves colour segmentation,

contour algorithms, and aspect ratio analysis for plate detection. Horizontal and vertical projections with thresholding are used for row separation and character segmentation, followed by template matching for character recognition. The system shows promise for applications like law enforcement and electronic payment systems.[10]

5. Requirement Analysis

Requirement Analysis, also known as requirement engineering. Machine Learning can be used to detect whether a person is suffering from cardiovascular disease or not by considering the certain attributes like age of the person, chest pain, cholesterol level and other attribute

1.Functional requirements analysis

The system should be able to detect number plates in images and videos.

The system should be able to accurately recognize the characters on the number plates.

The system should be able to handle a variety of number plate formats, including different countries, states, and provinces.

The system should be able to handle a variety of image and video conditions, such as different lighting conditions, different angles, and different resolutions.

2.User requirements

The system should be easy to use.

The system should be able to provide clear and concise output.

The system should be secure.

3.Non-functional requirements

The system should be fast and efficient.

The system should be accurate.

The system should be scalable.

The system should be reliable.

4. System requirements

The system should be able to be trained on a variety of datasets.

The system should be able to be integrated with other systems.

The system should be well-documented.

5. Modules Description

It describes the major functionalities of each module.

Cleaning up the data we make sure the data is organized and fix any missing data.

Picking the important stuff: we figure out which factors are most important for predicting characters on Number Plate.

Checking how well it works we see if our predictions are accurate and if there' s anything we can improve.

6. Feasibility Study

In the analysis phase, a feasibility study is conducted to assess whether using machine learning for Number plate Detection is practical and achievable.

1) Problem Statement and Scope:

Clearly define the problem you aim to solve: automatic recognition of vehicle number plates.

Specify the scope of your project, including the types of number plates (e.g., local, international) and any specific constraints (e.g., lighting conditions, camera angles). 2)

Technical Feasibility: Algorithm Selection: Investigate suitable machine learning algorithms for number plate detection and character recognition. Common choices include Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), YOLO (You Only Look Once), and OCR (Optical Character Recognition).

Data Availability: Assess the availability of labelled datasets containing images of number plates.

You may need to create your own dataset or find existing ones. Hardware and Software Requirements: Consider the computational resources required for training and deploying the model. Ensure you have access to suitable hardware (GPUs) and software (Python libraries like TensorFlow, Py Torch).

Hardware and Software Requirements

Hardware Requirements:

• Processor: above 500 MHz

Ram: 4GB Hard Disk: 4GB

• Input device: Standard keyboard and Mouse

• Output device: VGA and High-Resolution Monitor

Software Requirements:

Operating System: Windows 7 or higher

Programming: python 3.6 and related libraries

Software: Anaconda Navigator, Jupyter Notebook and Google colab

Software Requirements Specification:

A software requirements specification (SRS) is a description of a software system to be developed. It lays out functional and nonfunctional requirements, and may include a set of use. cases that describe user interactions that the software must provide.

Our software will fulfil every requirement needed for the user and concentrates on internal and external requirements in the final system.

Benefits of a good SRS:

• You save time

• You save money

You have better cooperation with the development team

• You feel confident

Design Concepts and Constraints

1.Data Collection and Preprocessing: Ensure data quality, deal with missing values, and normalize/standardize features for consistency.

2.Feature Selection and Engineering: This may involve domain knowledge, statistical analysis, and machine learning techniques such as correlation analysis or dimensionality reduction.

3.Model Selection and Evaluation: Choose appropriate machine learning algorithms (e/g. logistic, regression, decision trees, random forests, KNN) for classification tasks. Evaluate model performance using metrics like accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-score through techniques like cross-validation.

4. Interpretability: Models like random forest or linear models may offer more interpretability compared to complex models like neural networks.

5.Scalability and Deployment: Design systems that can scale with increasing data volume and user demand. Consider deployment constraints such as computational resources, latency requirements, and integration.

6. Continuous Monitoring and Updates: Implement mechanisms for model monitoring and performance tracking in production environments. Plan for periodic updates to incorporate new data and improve model accuracy over time.

7.Methodology:-

Methodology for Vehicle License Plate Detection and Recognition with Blur Removal for Image Input This project outlines the methodology for detecting and vehicle license plates from uploaded images. The system focuses on removing blurs before processing the images for accurate results. It can be broken down into five main stages:

1)Image Preprocessing with Deblurring

2)LicensePlate Localization

3)Character Segmentation:

4)Character Recognition

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Firstly, we start with Image Preprocessing and Deblurring. Users upload images containing vehicles, which are then converted from RGB to grayscale to simplify processing. A median filter is applied to remove unwanted noise and enhance edges. Deblurring techniques such as homomorphic filtering, Wiener filtering, or blind deconvolution are then explored, depending on the blur type present. Optionally, contrast enhancement methods like histogram equalization can be used to improve license plate detection accuracy.

Next, License Plate Localization identifies the plate's location within the preprocessed image. This involves using Sobel edge filters to detect sharp edges defining plate shapes, morphological operations for edge refinement, and connected component analysis to find potential plate candidates. Aspect ratio and area constraints further refine the selection.

Character Segmentation isolates individual characters within the detected plate region. Contour detection algorithms locate character shapes, while geometric properties like aspect ratio help distinguish characters from noise.

In Character Recognition, segmented characters are input into an Optical Character Recognition (OCR) engine, often leveraging tools like Tesseract. Configuration with region-specific training data may be necessary for accurate recognition. The OCR engine may provide confidence scores for each recognized character.

Lastly, Result Verification ensures recognition reliability. Length checks verify the string's adherence to standard plate character counts, character class checks confirm the alphanumeric set, and spatial verification ensures character sequence validity within the detected plate region.

This methodology outlines a comprehensive approach to license plate detection and recognition, underscoring the importance of deblurring techniques for handling image blurs effectively.

Figure 1. Uploaded Image

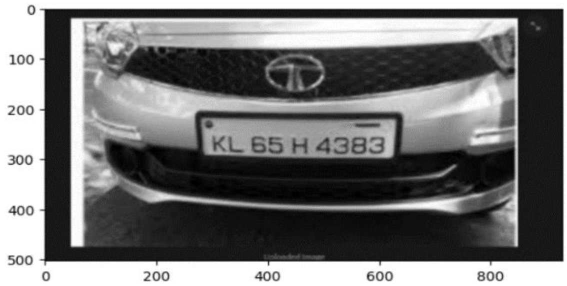

Figure 2. Gray Scale Image

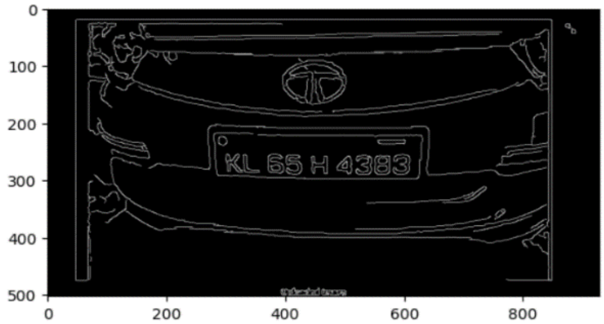

Figure 3. Image after Edge Detection

Figure 4. Final Output on website

9. References:-

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